LAW OFFICES

GULLETT, SANFORD, ROBINSON & MARTIN, PLLC

230 FOURTH AVENUE, NORTH, 3RD FLOOR Post Office Box 198888 NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37219-8888

TELEPHONE (615) 244-4994

FACSIMILE (615) 256-6339

GARETH S. ADEN LAWRENCE R. AHERN III G. RHEA'BUCY GEORGE V. CRAWFORD, JR. JACK W. ROBINSON, JR. GEORGE V. CRAWFORD III A. SCOTT DERRICK

THOMAS H. FORRESTER 2 DAN HASKELL LINDA W. KNIGHT JOEL M. LEEMAN

ALLEN D. LENTZ JEFFREY MOBLEY

KATHRYN H. PENNINGTON WM. ROBERT POPE, JR. WAYNE L. ROBBINS, JR. JACK W. ROBINSON, SR. VALERIUS SANFORD WESLEY D. TURNER PHILLIP P. WELTY

JOHN D. LENTZ

March 8, 2000

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Mr. David Waddell **Executive Secretary** Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, TN 37201

Petition of the Tennessee Small Local Exchange Company Coalition For Temporary Suspension of 47 U.S.C. §251(b) and 251(c) Pursuant To 47 U.S.C. $\S(f)(2)$ and 47 U.S.C. $\S(253(b))$ Docket No. 99-00613

Dear Mr. Waddell:

Enclosed for filing are the original and thirteen copies of the Reply of AT&T Communications of the South Central States, Inc. to the Motion to Compel Responses to Discovery Request filed by the Tennessee Small Local Exchange Company Coalition.

Copies are being served on counsel for parties of record.

Yours very truly,

VS/ghc **Enclosures**

cc:

Counsel of Record

James P. Lamoureux, Esq.

Garry Sharp



BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

IN RE:

Petition of the Tennessee Small Local Exchange Company Coalition For Temporary Suspension of 47 U.S.C. §251(b) and 251(c) Pursuant

To 47 U.S.C. $\S(f)(2)$ and 47 U.S.C. $\S253(b)$

Docket No. 99-00613

REPLY OF AT&T COMMUNICATIONS OF THE SOUTH CENTRAL STATES, INC. TO MOTION TO COMPEL RESPONSES TO DISCOVERY REQUEST

AT&T Communications of the South Central States, Inc. ("AT&T") urges the denial of the Motion to Compel Responses to Discovery Request filed by the Petitioners, the Tennessee Small Exchange Company Coalition ("Petitioners") on the ground that the motion states no basis for overruling AT&T's objections.

On January 28, 2000, the Petitioners served discovery requests directed to all the intervenors in this matter including AT&T.

On February 11, 2000, AT&T filed its response to each of those discovery requests. The Petitioners' motion to compel, however, ignores the specific objections raised by AT&T. Instead, the Petitioners base their motion as to AT&T and the other intervenors, other than SECCA, on the notion that the intervenors object "essentially on the basis that the analysis to determine the outcome of this case will presume that 'cream skimming' will occur"; and that if that is the presumption the TRA will follow, then the Petitioners agree to proceed without responses to their discovery.

First, neither Petitioners' characterization of AT&T's position, nor the statements concerning the TRA's position provide any basis for granting a motion to compel.



Second, the Petitioners fail to even purport to demonstrate that their pejorative characterization is anything other than "the economic burden that is typically associated with efficient competition"; 47 C.F.R. §51.405(d).

Third, the Petitioners ignore the specific objections made by AT&T, and do not base their motion on the statutory criteria, as interpreted in the binding FCC rules. The Petitioners advance only vague conclusory generalizations. Nowhere do the Petitioners even attempt to demonstrate why AT&T's objections should be overruled.

The Motion to Compel is without merit on its face and should be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

Val Sanford, #3316

GULLETT, SANFORD, ROBINSON & MARTIN, PLLC

230 Fourth Avenue North, 3rd Floor

P.O. Box 198888

Nashville, TN 37219-8888

(615) 244-4994

James P. Lamoureux, Esq.

AT&T

Room 4068

1200 Peachtree Street N.E.

Atlanta, GA 30309

(404) 810-4196

Attorneys for AT&T Communications of the South Central States, Inc.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Val Sanford, hereby certify that I have on this 8th day of March 2000, served a copy of the foregoing Reply of AT&T Communications of the South Central States, Inc. on the following persons via United States Mail, postage pre-paid and addressed as follows:

Val Sanford

Henry M. Walker, Esq. Boult Cummings, Conners & Berry 414 Union Street, #1600 Nashville, TN 37219

R. Dale Grimes, Esq. T. G. Pappas, Esq. Bass, Berry & Sims, PLC 2700 First American Center Nashville, TN 37238

Richard Collier, Esq. Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, TN 37243